

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-16.

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled)

17. (New) A rivet joint that has been formed between a plurality of sheets by a method which comprises:

- (i) forming holes in the sheets and placing the sheets together so that the holes are in register and form a single hole therethrough;
- (ii) inserting a blind rivet into the hole formed in the sheets from a working side thereof, the blind rivet comprising a sleeve positioned about a mandrel that has a head; and
- (iii) setting the rivet;

wherein the hole is radially enlarged at the outwardly facing surface of at least the sheet on the blind side, and the sleeve of the rivet is deformed during setting to form a rivet joint in which no part of the rivet is proud of the outwardly facing surface of the sheet at least on the blind side of the sheets.

18. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 17, wherein the hole is radially enlarged at the outwardly facing surfaces of both sheets and after setting of the rivet, no part of the rivet is proud of the outwardly facing surface of either sheet.

19. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 18, wherein the rivet sleeve is shaped to engage the radial enlargement on the working side of the hole.

20. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 19, wherein the rivet sleeve has a substantially frusto-conical part that engages the radial enlargement on the working side of the hole when the rivet is inserted in the hole.

21. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 20, wherein the frusto-conical part of the sleeve has a flat end surface that is substantially flush with the surface of the sheet on the working side thereof.

22. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 18, wherein the rivet sleeve is substantially cylindrical and is deformed into the countersink on the working side of the sheets during setting thereof.

23. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 22, wherein, during setting of the rivet, a setting tool jaw applies force on the rivet sleeve along the axis of the mandrel to deform the sleeve into the countersink.

24. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 17, wherein the mandrel has a region at the base of the head that slopes with respect to the axis of the mandrel so that, during setting of the rivet, part of the sleeve is deformed radially outwardly into the countersink on the blind side of the sheets.

25. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 24, wherein the mandrel head has a generally flat upper surface and remains in the rivet sleeve in the rivet joint.

26. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 17, wherein the mandrel head has a generally flat lower portion which causes the rivet sleeve to deform axially during setting of the rivet.

27. (New) A joint as claimed in claim 17, wherein the mandrel has been removed from the rivet joint after setting.

28. (New) A rivet joint that is formed between a plurality of sheets that have been placed together and have a hole extending therethrough, wherein the hole is radially enlarged at the outwardly directed surface of at least one sheet and the rivet joint is formed by means of a rivet sleeve that extends into the or each radial enlargement but does not protrude above the outwardly directed surfaces of the sheet at the radial enlargement of the hole.

29. (New) A rivet joint as claimed in claim 28, wherein the hole is radially enlarged at the outwardly directed surface of both sheets and the rivet sleeve does not protrude above the outwardly directed sleeve of either sheet.

30. (New) A housing for electronics equipment that contains one or more rivet joints as claimed in claim 17.